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Haliburton County's Independent Newspaper

Curling Club awarded 2013 finals

Tournament to bring high school champs to Haliburton

By **Terrance Gavan**

Rick Ashall is less than six months into his term as president of the Haliburton Curling Club.

He's no shrinking violet, but when the club's executive was asked if they'd like to host the Gore Provincial Curling Championships a few months back, Ashall found himself in the middle of a maelstrom.

Ashall, like any skip, is used to making some taut calls, but hosting the Gores is certainly one of the most onerous decisions he's made in his lengthy curling career. It's a little like calling for a double raise, double takeout with the last rock, in the final end of a one point game.

In the end, the Haliburton Curling Club, Ashall and the executive decided to let the granite fly. So Haliburton will be hosting the 2013 Gore High School Bonspiel.

The Gore is the most prestigious high school tourney in the province – second only to the OFSAA all-Ontario finals — and the invitation to host is not proffered without a stringent vetting process.

The request came via the Gore Mutual executive board, and it depicts a measure of respect and esteem for Haliburton High School's vibrant curling program, the Haliburton Curling Club and icemaker, John Walker.

Ashall said on Tuesday, shortly after the final decision to host the event was made, that the club had been stringent in assessing the pros, cons and the sheer weight of the task at hand. It's not often that a small club is asked to host an event of this size, and Ashall said the executive debated extensively, deciding in the end that the pros outweighed the cons.

"After much consultation with past hosts of the provincials, the Gore chairperson and local coaches Tom Dibblee and Russ



A strange thing happened on the way to the rink

Dysart et al Fire Chief Miles Maughan was plowing the public skating venue at Head Lake Park on Wednesday when the ice gave way. No one was injured, Maughan stayed dry and the truck is "drying out". And the rink? On hold.

Story on Page 2. Photo Walter Griffin

Duhaime, the executive approved proceeding with hosting the event," said Ashall in a release issued on Tuesday. "The bonspiel will include the top eight high school boys and top eight high school girls teams in the province."

The Highlander had an opportunity to talk with Ashall on Tuesday night, shortly after the executive held an inaugural meeting with some people who have had experience with the Gore Championships. Former Hal High skip Connor Duhaime (a Gore Champion), coaches Tom Dibblee and Russ Duhaime were there and provided a cogent overview and some insiders' insight.

The meeting was upbeat if somewhat daunting. "As a club we don't want to run a deficit," said Ashall. "But for a small town, this is a great honour. Tom and Russ have been involved as coaches and we wanted to get an idea from their perspective what works and what doesn't.

"We wanted to find out what other clubs have done and how they did it. For starters, we have 64 kids that we have to billet and while that presents a bit of a problem, Connor told us that the billeting is one of the real highlights of the weekend for the curlers."

Rick Ashall

Curling Club President

*For a small town,
 this is a great
 honour.*

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School teams participated in the Gore provincial boys championships in 2005, 2007, 2009, 2010 and 2011. The boys team of Connor Duhaime, Curtis Nichol, Jesse Walker, Owen Duhaime and Coach Dibblee won the Gore crown in 2009. The boys don't have a team this year, but the Hal High girls team have qualified for the Gore Regionals.

"That's a remarkable record for a town of this size, especially considering only eight teams qualify in the province
 continued on page 13

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Truck sinks into Head Lake

By Terrance Gavan

A Dysart et al vehicle with a snowplow on board framed an ironic warning for ice fishermen, ice walkers and snowmobilers everywhere on Wednesday morning.

The municipality pickup truck was plowing an outdoor rink surface when a front tire slid through a soft patch on the ice. The truck submerged near the Head Lake Municipal Dock.

Dysart fire chief Miles Maughan was driving the truck at the time and he said it all happened very slowly. "I was just out plowing the rink and the front of the truck dipped," said Maughan. "I opened the door and walked out onto the ice and that's when it started to sink. I was standing near it when it started to slide into the lake."

He said the truck was covered up to the hood by the time it reached bottom in the shallows near the shoreline. "The engine would have been pretty well covered," said Maughan.

The mishap occurred at around 11 am and Maughan said that it took about 2 hours to get the truck back on high ground. Other Dysart vehicles responded immediately and they managed to winch it out of the lake.

And the truck? "They're drying it out and I think it will be fine," said Maughan, who added that he had switched the engine off before exiting the vehicle.

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Dysart et al

Cultural plan survey attracts interest

By Will Jones

The following is a summary of the Dysart et al Council meeting of Jan 9, 2012.

Fewer fire callouts in 2011

The fire department responded to 258 calls in 2011, six fewer than in 2010. The estimated dollar loss was reduced substantially from the previous year, dropping from \$1,245,000 to \$560,200.

Medical calls totalled 129 and accounted for approximately 50 percent of all calls responded to in 2011. Department Chief Miles Maughan warned that many cottages still do not have working smoke alarms, following a check made in July 2011.

SIRCH CAPC to continue

Dysart Council has agreed to continue to offer free use of the Dysart Community Centre for the SIRCH initiative, Community Action Program for Children (CAPC), in 2012. The program has run each Wednesday over the past year, offering a place to meet and access to other organizations and resources for low income and at-risk families in the community.

Frost Festival funding

Council agreed to fund the Frost Festival in the amount of \$2,000. It also decided that a section of York Street will be closed for the duration of the event.

Council meeting dates to change

Commencing in March 2012, Dysart et al Council meetings will be held on the fourth Monday of each month, beginning at 9 am. The general meeting and planning meeting, currently held on the first and second Monday of each month respectively, will be combined into a single, day-long meeting.

Cultural Plan survey going well

Director of Planning and Development, Patricia Martin, told the regular Dysart et al Council meeting that the Cultural Plan online survey was being completed by many local people and as such was a real success. She asked that this effort be kept up for the upcoming visioning meeting on January 19.

Dysart ballpark could be car park

By Will Jones

The future of the baseball diamond in Haliburton Village is a step closer to being decided, following discussions at the regular Dysart et al Council meeting on January 9.

Although no firm decision has yet been made, councilors agreed that the current diamond is too small and that the best solution would be to find an alternative site for a new ballpark. This would free up the current site and allow the parking lot for the arena to be extended, to better meet the needs of teams and events held there and at the Legion and the Curling Club.

Following discussions at its December meeting, Council had asked that investigations be made into the possible reuse of the land on which the baseball diamond currently sits. Brian Nicholson, Director of Public Works, presented the original deed for the land, dated 1880, to Council. The deed states that the land was sold to the Municipality by the Canadian Land and Emigration Company Limited, with the proviso that it be used for "the purpose of a public square, fair ground, market ground and cricket ground and that they will not cut up or sell it for any other purpose."

Nicholson stated that he believed the municipality would be adhering to the deed if it were to move the diamond and build a parking lot on the present site. He then asked if he should put out an RFP (request for proposal) to help ascertain the construction costs.

Ward One Councilor Andrea Roberts asked, "Do we even need the ball diamond, because we have one in West Guilford and the only time that our diamond is booked is on Monday nights?"

Nicholson agreed, stating, "In my time here I've seen the diamond used very little; it is idle space that is underutilized in my opinion."

Deputy Reeve Bill Davis added, "The deed says it should be used for recreation. We have the recreation [the arena] — we don't have the parking to go with it, though. If we can facilitate that parking then I'll buy it."

Ward Five Councilor Walt McKechnie sounded a note of caution, "In 2012 the diamond may not be what we want, but we can't forget the youth and the need to provide them with a place to play sports. We need a baseball field and soccer pitches and we have to accommodate that if we turn this space into a car park."

To this Nicholson added that if the municipality were to consider building a new baseball diamond, it should consider much bigger plans for a multi-sports field and community centre. "Do we want to plan to incorporate a new community centre, too?" he asked. "And, if this is the route we take,

then we must consider the best site in terms of roads and access, drainage and sewage. There is a lot to think about."

Reeve Murray Fearrey stepped in at this point, stating, "That's a nice vision and we can think in terms of the next year, five years or 25 years, but most importantly

we need to understand what the parents want. We have to gauge public interest in a new ballpark."

McKechnie agreed. "It's really important that the public is involved and understands that we are doing something for the youth, as well as improving parking at the arena."

"I see a car park this year but maybe not a new ball diamond for a couple more," said Roberts.

Reeve Fearrey then stated that an approach should be made to the West Guilford community centre, to see if they are willing to share their facility. "Let's talk to the ball team and to West Guilford, then we can decide how to move forward with any new plans for our baseball diamond."

Andrea Roberts

Ward One Councilor

"Do we even need the ball diamond?"

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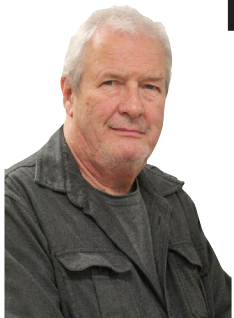
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Editorial opinion



The Haliburton art scene is nothing if not passionate

By Stephen Patrick

feel this is insulting, frankly, and wrong.”

Rails End Executive Director Laurie Jones told me this week said that she felt “the process was rushed, and because it’s such a generic name, it has the potential to be the brand, the recognized brand, of art and the quality of art in Haliburton County. And frankly it might not work out, which would have major negative consequences.

“It will be riding to some degree on the excellent reputation that the Haliburton arts community has garnered nationally and internationally because of the efforts of people like Jennifer Wanless-Craig, Victoria Ward, and of course the galleries: the Rails End, Agnes Jamieson, and the Ethel Curry Gallery,” Jones said. “And already some established artists have said they will use it to sell dead stock, which I think is a worrisome idea. But this is a wait-and-see situation; I certainly want to see as much exposure and success for Haliburton artists as possible.”

Haliburton Chamber of Commerce President Eric Thompson (owner of Maple Moon Winery) also voiced some concern regarding the branding. “I commend them for trying to get a brand for Haliburton County – it’s one thing I’ve been concerned about for a number of years as a local businessman. I also feel that we need a branding for the County that doesn’t focus exclusively on the arts. But the other thing is my concern that followed from another person’s comment: that the website would mean people wouldn’t have to travel here anymore. Well, businesses rely on people coming here – so if people think they don’t need to come here, that’s not going to help us for sure.”

There is no doubt that the local arts industry is an essential part of this County’s economy, and indeed identity. Many major local business people, such as Century 21’s broker of record and co-owner Andrew Hodgson, strongly support the notion of a “creative economy”, for example, as does the Haliburton County Development Corporation. So there is no doubt that www.madeinhaliburton.ca could become a major player in the County’s art scene.

As Potter Debbie Wales told me, “I’m filling out my application right now! It will probably only be a small part of our sales, but it’s great advertising and great exposure to a wider area. For example, I often get people wanting me to ship our products, and I’ve tried it a few times, and it’s a huge hassle. So I will be able to direct people to the website. And the 30 percent is no problem for me; if artists don’t want to do it, don’t join.”

Another issue of concern, certainly to this writer, is the draconian criteria set out for the inclusion of work, with dark references to “vulgar comments”, “offensive remarks”, or the glamorization of illegal substances.

These criteria would immediately exclude all the early scripts and films of David Cronenberg and Peter Greenaway, at least two of Vladimir Nabokov’s best novels, everything that Hunter S. Thompson, Scott Symons, and William Burroughs ever wrote, or thought of writing, and virtually all hip hop and rap music. Has anyone on the committee ever listened to a teenager’s iPhone lately?

Well, there isn’t an arts community in the world that doesn’t have strongly-opposed views on any number of issues. And it will be up to the Arts Council, as well as to some of the dedicated volunteers who want to help out in the process, such as Janis Parker of Parker Pad and Printing, to make sure that some of the concerns expressed are addressed, or at least listened to.

Because there’s little doubt that the site will become a reality; the Arts Council and the team of Don and Marie Gage, who initially proposed the idea and who will supervise and own the website, are delighted with the early response overall, and the number of applications already received.



By Bram Lebo

People needing people

A vision, a vision!

I feel like Tattoo from Fantasy Island — ready to run up the nearest bell tower, point in the direction of Minden and shout out the good news.

The report from the Minden Hills town hall meeting last week is very encouraging, for a few reasons. First, there was a healthy dose of realism; recognition of some of the very difficult problems the municipality faces, from unattractive shopping promenades to a lack of housing. It would have defied credulity were Council to pretend everything was sunshine and roses.

Also promising is the involvement of citizens in the process.

Sayers of nay have a much more difficult time shooting darts from the sidelines if they’re invited to participate in the game from the get-go, a lesson MadeinHaliburton.ca might have learned after it sprung its plans — reasoned and well-intentioned as they may be — on an unsuspecting artist community. Citizens also expand the pool of ideas from which the Council can later draw, and act as buffers to keep Council from going down the wrong path.

The third and perhaps most encouraging element in the Council’s plans is the clear understanding that economic development starts and ends with people. Or, more specifically, a particular kind of people: residents.

Residents start businesses or take jobs; they shop and eat out, ski and buy docks. Residents bring their savings and income and, just by living here, enrich the local economy — not to mention their welcome contributions to culture and volunteerism.

Tourists are essential, to be sure, a vital part of our landscape and our welfare. But compare the benefit of a weekend visitor to someone who moves to Haliburton County, builds a home and stays permanently: an injection of five hundred dollars versus five hundred thousand, or more. The direction in which to focus resources becomes obvious.

Of course residents need all of the things Larry Clarke talked about — from housing and a village full of good, useful shops to recreational activities and healthcare services. Build it, and they will come. It sounds so straightforward.

Alas, many long-timers will have seen all this before. They know it’s never as easy as it looks on paper; the greatest of dreams tend to evaporate under the hot light of scrutiny or the cold facts of tax assessments and cutbacks. Ambition and naiveté have often proven a disastrous combination, from Icarus to the Iraq War. But in Minden Hills, the ambition is clearly tempered with humility; and there’s never been a lack of healthy scepticism in Minden to ensure enthusiasm remains strong and not foolish.

Yes, it will take more than a marching band of town hall attendees to solve the troubles-with-a-capital-T facing Minden and other locales in the county. And, frankly, we’d like to see more detail here. “A more vital seniors’ community” sounds nice but is ultimately meaningless; instead, a commitment to see built 30 new housing units within walking distance of the Village by 2015 would set a clear, measurable goal for voters to assess. Perhaps that level of detail will come, in time.

Still, in all, a very promising start. That the Minden Hills Council is taking such a structured, open and deliberate approach to its future is something all municipalities, and the county as a whole, should look at. As tired as the old phrase sounds, people are indeed our greatest asset.

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Letters to the Editor

Re: “Who Says?”

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to Mr. Ted Cumber’s January 5 letter to the editor entitled “Who Says?”

I am in complete and wholehearted agreement with Mr. Cumber’s eloquent argument that language is in constant evolution: in fact, language is often described as a living, changing instrument of civilizations. Also, there is no doubt that Britons and Canadians, Mexicans and Spaniards, have different usages of the same languages. However, if you plop a Canadian in the middle of the UK, they will be able to communicate at a very high level, even about humour, world politics and religion (the most difficult topics to discuss in any language).

Similarly, if you parachute a Quebecois or a Franco-Ontarian, such as myself, anywhere in France, they will be equally competent to converse with a French person. That is why

I have, for decades, fought the complete fabrication that people who know little (or nothing) about French-Canadians spread that “Quebecers speak an ENTIRELY different French than the people of France” – what an insult that is.

My family are all originally from France on both sides (Benoit and Limoges), and 100 percent French blood runs through my veins – the language I spoke at my mother’s knee, and still speak impeccably well, is French, and NOT “French Canadian”!

Finally, I must say that what I agree with most fervently in Mr. Cumber’s letter is his second-last sentence. “My apologies to Margery and everyone else for any mistakes in the writing.” On behalf of “everyone else”, I accept.

*Sincèrement,
Monsieur René Benoit,
Haliburton*

“The same bloated aristocratic gang ...”

Dear Editor,

You write in your last editorial: “You could argue that [in] the 1950s... the Church [and Premier Duplessis] still held Quebec in their iron grip...”

With all due respect, I would not.

I, also, have looked at many history books on the question but, most importantly, I have lived between Shawinigan, Trois-Rivieres and Montreal from the early 1950s to the early 1970s and have seen no iron grip save the one clenched right from the year 1759 to the “Quiet Revolution” by the English-dominated establishment.

The iron grip was made real to me in 1951, when my father told me the tale of Monsieur Villemure, the municipal engineer of then Grand Mere, now Shawinigan. “He wanted,” said Dad, “to build himself a house in the English section by the paper mill and was barred from doing so by the “others...”

Catholic clerics have merely played a very minor secondary role to further conservatism, out of fear of the French, and then the Russian revolutions.

Just re-read two paragraphs down your editorial to re-discover the real iron grip of 2011: the “capitalist barons” whom [Peter C.] Newman likes to write about.

The same kleptocratic establishment has caused, and continues to cause, so many Attawapiskat-like tragedies.

The same bloated aristocratic gang that (reflected by one of your letter-writers of last week) have taken great enjoyment in painting French-Canadians as uncultured boors, the Irish Catholics as brawling drunkards and the Natives whose land they grabbed as lazy and shiftY do-nothings.

*Mr. C. Lutz
Haliburton*

A psychiatrist’s advice on subtracting our ADD

By Terrance Gavan

We wish you luck, wanderers and freaks, who have not enlisted the services of a “head doctor”.

Yes, we are the proud receptacle of a laundry list of mental derangements, and like any proud Canadian, we have availed ourselves of this country’s open access to shrinks and snake charmers on numerous occasions.

Two psychologists, several counselors and a forgotten number of Jungian and Freudian psychiatrists – sorry, we lost count – have peered into the depths of our cranium and have pronounced us sound of body and shy of mind.

The diagnoses simply confirm the suspicions of people who know us, including most of the 365 members of the Haliburton Curling Club.

Our latest trip to a head man happened just before Christmas, right here in Haliburton, where, as some of you already know, we have bi-weekly access to a psychiatrist, Dr. Montague Pequod.

We were there on the advice of our GP, Doctor Alex Altruistic, to discern whether or not we were suffering from Attention Deficit Disorder - ADD.

Ah, a deer just walked across my lawn. My hat is crooked. Damn e-mail.

Now, where were we? Oh yes, Montague.

So there’s an ADD questionnaire to fill out and then a chat to be had. No couch. Rather disappointing.

Did you know that St. Thomas Aquinas said that “an infinite number of angels can dance on the head of a pin?” That just garnered from CBC. We love the CBC. Did you know that Peter Gzowski smoked a lot?

Aha, a tangent.

And now about the chat. We talked about our childhood and our propensity to procrastinate and weedle, waffle and procrastinate. We also talked about our obsession with the royal we. We came to an aha! moment...

Hello! Did you know that procrastinate – postpone until tomorrow — is derived from the Latin pro (for) plus cras (tomorrow) and that placing ‘stuff’ on the proverbial shelf is symptomatic of...

Wow! Lollipops and gingerbread! Just look at our sunset. That orangey-red happens only in the Highlands.

And I asked the good psychiatrist why our mind tends to flagellate to insignificant...

Sunset? Camera, where’s our camera?

Jackie says she saw it in the fridge. New cameras. My, oh my. We remember in 1987, spending our Sundays in a darkroom, developing 54 rolls of black and white film for the Selkirk Journal.

But. We. Digress. We think we’re done here.

Attention Deficit Disorder?

Zis-boom-bah! I have no idea what we’re talking about.

Squirrel!

Who stole my car keys?

The Outsider — Phat rides or midlife misgivings

And so the snows came. Not in the all engulfing kerflumpff that even I, a relative newbie to Canadian winters, know that they can do, but in a gradual, silent accumulation interspersed with warm(ish) spells and rain; something I didn’t sign up for when moving from Blighty.

But they are here now and that means I can get on with the first stage of my major New Year’s resolution: that of morphing into a Canadian. Well, I see it that way. Unfortunately, my wife looks upon my first winter sports purchase as a steady descent (an apt metaphor as you’ll soon see) into a midlife crisis.

You see, I was in Boatwerks perusing the skis. “Ooo! Pointy or round tips, thin and fat skis, what’s the difference?”

A resigned sigh from the young assistant, “You’re not from ‘round here, are you sir.”

“And snowboards; so much bigger than I imagined. You must have to have huge feet to fit into those giant pumps that snowboarders wear.” He rolled his eyes and walked away.

It was then that I saw it, the monster.

Its bloodshot eyes were almost popping out of its skull, its tongue dangling from fang-festooned jaws, hairs on its hunched back bristling with menace. I stumbled back a step or two then pitched forward towards the beast. “Nooo!” cried the wife mockingly but I was hypnotised by the monster’s manic stare. I had no choice.

The design on the deck of my new snowskate board is a little garish, I have to admit, but I’m either standing on it or face down in the snow, so I don’t get to see it that often.

Much to the bemusement of the young sales assistant, I purchased this cross between a snowboard and a skateboard. It’s smaller than the former and lacks the wheels of the latter, essentially making it a slightly curved sheet of plastic on which those much more adept than myself can glide, grind, jump and slide through the snow. I, on the other hand, am currently more of a slip, bump and whumph into the snow.

But let me take you back to the scene of purchase. After she’d stopped laughing, I looked at my wife and stated, “It’s a sick board and I’m gonna burn up some rad hills, dood!”

She collapsed to the floor in another fit of hysterical giggles. Just long enough for me to make my purchase and exit the store with my credibility only almost-totally in tatters.

Little Z is on my side, thankfully. He calls it ‘Daddy’s MONSTER board’ and I tend to agree. We’ve been out practicing, too. He sits on the board and slides down the gradual slope of our garden. I stand on the board and slide part way down the same slope before burying the front of the board in the snow and cart wheeling (maybe that’s a tad too-graceful a description) to the bottom, usually coming to a stop on my chin.

Nobody said snowskate boarding would be easy, though.

And, from past experience on a conventional skateboard, and very minimal but quite painful past experience on a conventional skateboard, I know only too well that it’ll take more than a few ‘runs’ to get the hang of my new purchase.

As for my wife’s belief that I’m having a midlife crisis, she may be right. My insistence on wearing the baggiest pair of jeans I own, hitched up to just below my backside was perhaps a giveaway; that, and my new vocabulary that includes words such as ‘sick’ and ‘stoked’, when perhaps I should be using terms like ‘sketchy’ or ‘gnarly’ to describe my technique!

But to her I say: if it is a midlife crisis you got off the hook lightly. A snowskate board is relatively inexpensive (barring serious injury and an extended hospital stay, that is). I haven’t gone out and bought a Harley Davidson or Porsche, and I’m embracing winter sports in Canada, an integral part of my New Year’s resolution.

She now smiles when I slacken my belt and flip my deck up into my mitten, before informing me she’ll be sticking to skiing. But hey, that’s ‘beat’ man; not ‘tight rad wicked’ (etc, ask any teenager for translation) like cruising my monster board. Yo!



By Will Jones

Highlander arts

State of the Arts



By Victoria Ward

Apocalypses are so yesterday

“A great ball of flame will hit the earth!”
So yesterday.

One of my city guests over New Year's told me that once the revolution begins in earnest — you know, when the guillotine is erected and CEOs are lined up and so forth — he plans to move into our storage shed or wherever else on our property we might have him. This made me think about my peers in the city who only have to turn on their coffee maker in the morning and how far removed they are from such things as building a fire for heat.

Like most Halibu types, I have a wood stove that we use for most of our heating needs. I spend many mornings pretending to be asleep hoping that someone else gets up and builds a fire. But my threshold for the cold is so low that in fact, most mornings I get up and build a fire right away to take the frostiness out of my bones. Simple tasks such as the morning fire-building now seem, strangely, to be very modern, even forward-thinking.

I believe we will hear the word revolution many times this year as people turn away from recent apocalypse obsessions to try and deal with, and hope for, the future. Since the end-of-the-Mayan-calendar-free-for-all is happening less than a year away, there are many who are backtracking on its apparent prediction; the date may be wrong and there is no mention in the Mayan culture of an “end time”.

A quick Google search reveals that in fact, once you read through the many, many cults and religions to find something more substantial than “a great ball of flame will hit the earth”, or “a cataclysmic war will envelope the world”, or try to puzzle out math equations that have circles collapsing on each other, you find very little that is interesting at all. Perhaps the apocalypse will go the way of the ‘has been’. End of the world? That's so yesterday.

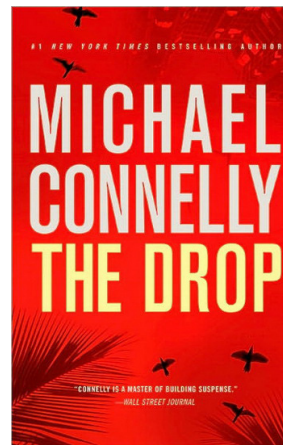
I suggest again that living here in Haliburton is its own revolutionary act. If there is a bigger revolution, and some suggest that it is already happening (a growing number of Americans are suing their banks or deliberately defaulting on their mortgages), then where else would you rather be than hidden in a forest with a woodstove and accessible groundwater? Cities can be turned into prisons pretty quickly once chaos is unleashed.

The problem however with a city under siege is that cities are usually where most of the art is. The looting of the Baghdad Museum when the Iraq war broke out received mixed attention until everyone actually saw the footage of the galleries torn asunder. In Afghanistan, when the Taliban blew up two sixth century Bhuddas originally carved into the side of a mountain outside of Kabul, it barely registered. And who knows what is happening to galleries in Syria and Libya.

The Nazi elite during WWII became art collectors, or actually, art thieves. Some very enterprising Parisians took it upon themselves to hide and lock up many of the treasures found inside that city's astounding galleries before the Nazis helped themselves. It still makes me woozy when I think that after the war Hubert and Jan van Eyck's magnificent Ghent Altarpiece (1432) was found under a mouldy rug, in a cave, waiting to be hung in some murderer's bedroom.

Art can become the first victim of war, revolution and economic hardship; the thinking being that we can't protect art if we are busy protecting ourselves. Fair enough. But a society that doesn't honour its culture by taking care of its art is bound to vanish, leaving no trace of who we are. We have as little right to trash something created by people hundreds of years ago as we do to trash our planet.

Change can happen with violence. It can be devastating. But it can happen peacefully too. Either way, I am now well equipped to hide with my work and start a fire for warmth or, if needed, burn an effigy.



Haliburton County's Hot Reads

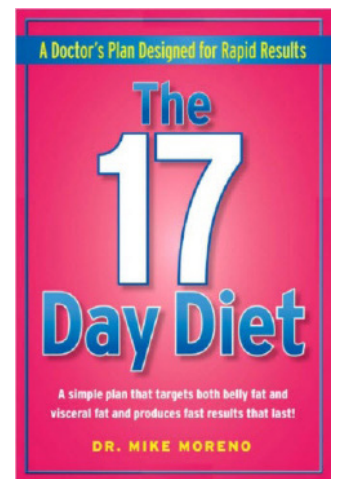
The following are the top 5 fiction and non-fiction titles as requested at the Haliburton County Public Library for the week of January 9th-15th.

HCPL's TOP 5 FICTION

- 1: The Drop by Michael Connelly
- 2: Zero Day by David Baldacci
- 3: Kill Alex Cross by James Patterson
- 4: The Litigators by John Grisham
- 5: Shock Wave by John Sandford

HCPL's TOP 5 NON-FICTION

- 1: The 17 Day Diet by Mike Moreno
- 2: Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson
- 3: From This Moment On by Shania Twain
- 4: Jacqueline Kennedy: Historic Conversations on Life with JFK
- 5: Wheat Belly by William Davis



This week's HCPL Top Fiction list is filled with the standard pop-fiction thriller writers that everyone seems to know and love. The Non-

Fiction list is, however, a bit more interesting in that it features two diet books — almost certainly a response to the New Year diet boom. The 17 Day Diet, which is said to target belly fat and visceral fat, soared to the top of the list while Wheat Belly, which supposedly promotes weight loss through a wheat-free diet plan, has been popular since its release last Fall.

You may be interested to know that the Haliburton County Public Library has over a hundred books geared towards diet, exercise and weight loss. There is truly something for everyone: pasta enthusiasts (The Carb Lovers Diet by Ellen Kunes), vegans (The Kind Diet by Alicia Silverstone) and conspiracy theorists (The Weight Loss Cure “They” Don't Want You To Know About by Kevin Trudeau). If weight loss is your goal, then the library is your place!

LIBRARY NEWS

Library Yoga is back! Lynda Shadbolt will be running yoga classes each Tuesday from 4-5pm at the Dysart branch of the Haliburton County Public Library. This program will run January 17 to February 21. Entrance is by donation to the Friends of the Library. Visit www.haliburtonyoga.com for more details.

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Highlander arts

Excitement, skepticism greet web project

New online gallery seeks to represent local artists, market globally

By Terrance Gavan

Last Thursday at the Wild Moose, a five-pronged collaboration of local businesses and a non-profit organization met with local artists, artisans and crafters to introduce a new online venture. *Made in Haliburton* hopes to bring global markets to Highlands artists, one click at a time.

The pre-launch meeting drew a relatively large crowd of about 65, most of whom were local artists who reside and create in Haliburton County.

"MadeinHaliburton.ca is a new, full service, online gallery and marketplace that will open the world market to Haliburton County," announced an enthusiastic Marie Gage. Gage and her husband Don are spearheading the e-business side of the venture, taking responsibility for building the website and marketing it. The site is expected to go live March 1.

"From 2002-08, retail e-sales increased at an average annual growth rate of 21 percent compared with four percent for total retail sales," said Marie. She explained that per annum growth of 10 to 20 percent in e-commerce is expected until 2015. "We are committed to creating a successful and busy online gallery for local artisans and a marketplace for their goods," she said.

Joining the Gages in this unique and fairly substantial venture is The Arts Council of Haliburton Highlands, The Art Hive, Parker Pad and Printing, and TheRightEyeDeer Press.

Donna Gagnon, representing the Arts Council, acquired a \$47,600 grant through the Ministry of Tourism and Culture's Cultural Strategic Investment Fund (CSIF). Of that money, \$23,000 is going to the Gages for the website and other start-up costs; the remainder is in the hands of the Arts Council and will be used to coordinate the project.

The Art Hive will create and host four week-long exhibitions featuring the work of artists displaying their wares on madeinhaliburton.ca. Janice Parker of Parker Pad and Printing is taking on the potentially tricky job of shipping and receiving, a major part of any ecommerce site but one which becomes complicated with multiple suppliers. TheRightEyeDeer Press and Don Pugh – Gagnon's husband – will be writing 12 featured-artist articles that will be used in the marketing of the website.

A steering committee, with representatives from each partner, has been struck to manage the design and implementation of the project, including the look-and-feel of the site and the selection of artists to be



Don Gage introduces MadeInHaliburton.ca to local artists. Photo Terrance Gavan.



featured on it. The logo – which accompanies this article – has already been approved.

Gagnon says that once the grant period is over, in October, 2012, the website will be owned and operated by Don and Marie

Gage. The Arts Council committee will then assume an advisory role, continuing to consult regarding the criteria for inclusion and the eligibility of individual artists.

The criteria include rather stern caveats against "remarks or terms that signify hate towards another group of people, inappropriate content or nudity that is not artistic in nature, content that exploits the likeness of minors, obscene and vulgar comments and offensive remarks that harass, threaten, defame or abuse others."

Banned art also includes content "that depicts violence, is obscene, abusive, fraudulent or threatening... [and art which] glamorizes the use of illegal drugs or alcohol."

It was unclear as to who might be responsible for determining which artworks fall afoul of the guidelines, and none of the audience members — hardly shy with their questions — asked for clarification.

Site takes a cut for marketing works

Marie said that the website will charge artists a 30 percent commission on works sold, while pointing out that a number of art commerce sites charge 50

percent. That prompted an audience response, and several attendees rose to ask for examples of the higher fee. Marie explained that the 30 percent, which some audience members questioned, will cover photography, promotion, marketing, shipping, insurance, payment processing and collections. Artists will be paid monthly from the proceeds of their sold works.

Later, in a follow-up email, she elaborated on her remarks, saying, "first of all, I need to say that there are not that many sites that are online, full-service galleries, and the ones that do this don't always list their fees. Artful Home (artfulhome.com) asks artists to photograph their work as well as pack and ship from their home studio, and artists pay 50 percent. Ucanbuyart.com charges 30 or 40 percent but you ship and provide images."

Many artists in attendance had questions regarding shipping insurance and transportation. Parker said her company had looked into many of the details involved with the insurance of artwork. Another artist questioned the efficacy of the shipping costs for smaller products like jewelry, where shipping often accounts for one-half of the total value of the items being shipped. Marie explained that shipping costs were all borne by the buyer, and added that if small-product artists did sign on to MadeinHaliburton.ca, they would no longer bear the brunt of shipping a large number of packages.

continued on page 9

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65 people attended the launch of the art marketing website. Photo Terrance Gavan.

continued from page 8

“We’ll package all products in a safe and secure way for shipping... deal with damaged items and insurance costs and deal with customer complaints,” said Marie.

There was a lively discussion regarding the efficacy of on-line art, including comparisons to etsy.com – charging 3.5 percent commission — which some artists compared to a flea market. Don and Marie said Etsy requires each member artist to manage their own website and ship their own products. In her follow-up email, Marie explained that Etsy requires artists to handle payments, photography and shipping, all of which detract from producing art. MadeinHaliburton.ca is more like a virtual, full-service art gallery; a turn-key solution for artists.

Project under construction

Applications were sent by email to all of the artists in attendance and the March 1 launch date hinges on developing a core of local artisans willing to jump on board. Each artist will be charged a \$25 yearly fee for inclusion on MadeinHaliburton.ca and those fees will go to the Arts Council in perpetuity. Every artist must also be a member of the Arts Council.

Don said that they had already purchased camera equipment and light boxes to facilitate the professional imaging of products. He added that they will also be attending trade shows and displaying videos on the site to offer the best possible promotion to their artists.

“We do all the selling,” said Marie. “You take care of the creative production.”

Great Balls of Fire stars Joe Passion & The Shakers

By Terrance Gavan

Goodness, gracious, great balls of fire – and brimstone.

Jerry Lee Lewis, that daft, deft demon of boogie woogie is coming – on gossamer wings of channelled exuberance — to Haliburton.

Joe Passion and the Shakers bring their Jerry Lee Tribute to the Highlands next Friday, Jan 20 at the Northern Lights Pavilion. Show time is at 8 pm. Toronto’s Joe Passion, says the band’s promotional material, “is an actor, singer, composer, producer and piano player extraordinaire.”

An artist in his own right, Passion’s passion, apparently, is the histrionically-inclined Jerry Lee Lewis.

“Passion is a multi-talented tribute artist who has a lot more going on than his piano-pounding reputation might indicate,” says the show’s producer, Merv Buchanan. The performer has toured extensively throughout Canada, the US, Germany, Australia and Switzerland, opening for such acts as The Who, The Band, Procul Harum, Johnny Winter, Poco and Bonnie Tyler.

The real Jerry Lee was born to Elmo and Mamie Lewis in Ferriday, Louisiana and started playing piano with two cousins, Mickey Gilley and Jimmy Swaggart. Yes Mickey and Jimmy and Jerry Lee all dabbled with Lucifer in their youth. All three, apparently, met regularly throughout their lives with their inner demons, without rancor or remorse, and good for them. Don’t waste your prayers, those souls are stamped, bought and sold.

As legend goes, Elmo and Mamie

mortgaged their farm to buy Jerry Lee a piano. Mamie enrolled Jerry Lee in Southwest Bible Institute in Waxahachie, Texas. But Jerry Lee recognized at a young age that he wasn’t cut from ‘fundamentalist cloth’ and when he played a boogie woogie rendition of My God Is Real at a church assembly, they bumped his butt out of bible school.

Years later, Lewis would comment on the irony of his ouster. “You know it’s strange, the same music that they kicked me out of school for is the same kind of music they play in their churches today,” said Jerry Lee — quoted here from another demonic appendage, Wikipedia. “The difference is, I know I’m playing for the devil and they don’t.”

We have no idea about the state of Jerry Lee’s moral compass today, but we do know that his music — raucous, loud and morally abysmal — lives on. His lyrical treatise rocked a world and Jerry Lee must take his place with Elvis, the Big Bopper and Buddy in the pantheon of artists who delivered 60s youth from evil, with the maliciously delicious mantra of rock and roll.

The RMS Group and Trend Records present “Great Balls Of Fire!” on Friday, Jan 20, 8 pm, at the Northern Lights Pavilion. Tickets are \$28, including tax, at Cranberry Cottage, in Haliburton, (705) 457-1844, Minden Pharmasave (705) 286-1220 or order by phone toll-free at 1-888-782-5507.

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Monday January 23rd, 2012 - 4:30pm
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Tuesday January 24th, 2012 - 7:00pm
Dowset Recreation Centre

Minden Hills

Seizing the day for the economy



Minden Hills Councillors Lisa Schell, Larry Clarke, Reeve Barb Reid and Brigitte Gall listen to residents at a special town hall meeting. Photos Terrance Gavan.

By Terrance Gavan

Carpe diem – seize the day – is not part of the Minden Hills mission statement. That might change though, as the “Gateway to the Highlands” seeks to assert itself in a changing world.

Recognizing assets and seizing opportunities will be a priority for Minden Hills as it moves to implement a strategic plan aimed at dragging the municipality into the 21st century. That’s what Councillor Larry Clarke told constituents at the Minden Community Centre on Saturday morning.

Clarke was the man in the middle at a special meeting of Minden Hills Council, a town hall gathering in which he gave a buoyant presentation, outlining the many developmental challenges currently facing Minden Hills — and indeed a number of

municipalities in rural Ontario. Reeve Barb Reid — along with councillors Ken Redpath, Lisa Schell and Brigitte Gall — were present to address their own roles in the business and development plan. Deputy Reeve Cheryl Murdoch and councillor Jean Neville did not attend the special meeting.

“This is a Coles Notes version of the economic development strategy developed by Council,” said Clarke. The presentation pointed to some disturbing trends: a moribund downtown core, a seasonal economy that relies heavily on cottagers and tourists; no firm commitments on industry and jobs; and a relatively small market size.

“Our employment options and opportunities are limited; there is a lack of housing for seniors and youth and few resources to support business growth,” said Clarke.

Other issues mentioned included limited public transportation and a small inventory of commercial properties and building sites. Despite the challenges, Clarke said Council is confident it can instigate change through a strategic business plan.

Council to build on strengths

The good news, Clarke told the room of constituents, is that Council is moving to address Minden’s deficiencies and promote its assets. Part of the strategic plan will include an incremental shift in attitude: Minden Hills must redirect its thinking and its priorities to attainable goals.

The mission, said Clarke, is to “develop a more substantial and sustainable business and family environment.” The plan takes advantage of Minden’s unique spot on the map. “It’s the Gateway to the Highlands.”

Minden is part of cottage country, but is also located on a major highway not far from the GTA. And that, according to Council’s reckoning, makes it an ideal locale for a retirement community.

Refinements have to be made, but Clarke listed a compendium of assets that Minden must embrace moving forward, including “a beautiful natural environment with an attractive and enviable lifestyle. We have a large seasonal population and a growing year-round population.”

Other positives include the Riverwalk — a wheelchair accessible trail — the Cultural Centre, library, arena, hospital, school and a vibrant community centre. “We have natural sites and trails in a village with water and sewer-access, and an expanding retail sector,” said Clarke. He added that the recreational tourism industry has year-round growth potential, citing a need for the ongoing development of parks and trails, along with the implementation of music and arts attractions and events.

Further steps must be implemented to draw snowmobiling and ATV enthusiasts — Reeve Barb Reid said they made a good start with the reopening of some old snowmobile trails into Minden this year, and the creation of a brand new trail over Mount Minden. She also said that Minden is dedicated to expanding the Hwy 35 retail sector, and added that the addition of two new businesses — the

Canadian Tire and the Dairy Queen on Hwy 35 — are testaments to Minden’s burgeoning retail possibilities. At the same time, Reid said Council recognizes impediments to growth that must be addressed moving forward.

Looks are important

“Our community does not look prosperous,” said Clarke, and that creates a big PR problem. The report says a revitalization of the town is necessary in order to draw businesses, retirees and long-term residents. Until Minden Hills Council addresses these issues, said Clarke, businesses will continue to close, seniors and youth will continue to move out of the community, Minden will fall behind in the battle for tourist dollars and residents and businesses will shop outside the community for their products, goods and services.

In order to improve the Minden Hills experience, the report suggests a comprehensive review and some bold strokes: Minden must support business growth, create a viable business environment, develop infrastructure and invest in serious marketing efforts. The plan includes development of a more vital seniors’ community, high-speed internet expansion, addressing the need for affordable family housing, and promoting development of a YMCA and community theatre.

“Workshops to identify needs and opportunities for Minden Hills business start in February,” said Clarke. That will be followed by a business development and entrepreneur seminar in March. He added that an Official Plan update review must accommodate and support small businesses, and target commercial land for business expansion — job-creating businesses like Canadian Tire and Dairy Queen.

Improvements to the Village proper must also be addressed moving forward, said Clarke. They include upgrades to the appearance of buildings and streetscapes, better signage, additional washrooms, improved traffic flow and new retail and restaurant options.

In all, the session offered a glimpse into the possibilities for Minden Hills and Haliburton County. Some might even call it... a vision.

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Senior highlanders



A Dysart snowplow clipped this SUV as the SUV was attempting to pass, last Thursday on Hwy 118. To date no charges have been laid, and now one was injured.
Photo Stephen Patrick

Aging Well

Tai Chi great for seniors

Hello Penny,

I don't know you personally but I do read your columns in the Highlander. One of them mentioned that you might be writing more about back problems at a later date. I instruct Taoist Tai Chi in Minden. It has proven very helpful for people with back problems. We are having Open Houses in Minden, Kinmount, Haliburton, and Wilberforce in the next few weeks. I would like to invite you to one of them to see what we do and how it might be useful for your column. I would be pleased to talk with you anytime to give you more details.

Amy

Dear Amy,

Thank you so much for getting in touch and for your kind invitation to attend an open house about Tai Chi. At this point, I know almost nothing about Tai Chi but I have watched a group of early morning practitioners in the park and the routines struck me as providing a number of serious benefits in terms of a healthy body and mind. I actually tried to join the group but the instructions were in Chinese and I'm afraid I was out of my depth.

While I haven't studied the moves and can't possibly speak about their value for an aging population with back problems, I can tell you my initial reaction is that Tai Chi is fascinating to watch and very likely an excellent path to maintaining a stronger, healthier body.

Based on what I've seen, Tai Chi uses a system of controlled,

slow movements that involve the entire body, strengthening muscle and improving general grace and fluidity. It is the lack of external resistance and the individual's control of the movements that make Tai Chi safer than most other exercise programs. Working against gravity helps with balance and posture; controlled breathing is good for the lungs and no doubt, there are cardiac benefits too. It's also obvious that the movements enhance kinesthetic sense — a person's awareness of his or her body's motion — of particular benefit to aging participants who need every physical advantage they can get.

Most certainly, Tai Chi improves coordination and balance — which translates into a decreased risk of falls in the elderly. It also appears to encourage mobility and increase range of motion. All good things — but I'd like to know more.

Since you teach it, you're obviously the person to fill in the blanks for me and tell me everything I need to know. I would very much like to see a class in action. I'm eager to learn more about Tai Chi and what might possibly be an ideal way to maintain good habits, good strength and good health in an aging population.

Readers, if you have any other questions—about your mobility, your comfort, or just about getting through your day more safely and easily, I want to hear them. For real-life answers you can use, write to penny@haliburtonhighlander.ca.



By Penny Brown

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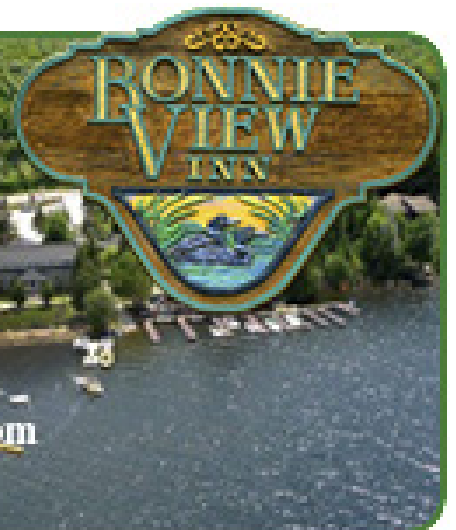
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We are your not-for-profit, community radio station in Haliburton County. Serving residents and visitors alike.

Highlander science

Moose DNA tracked to Toronto freezer

Two men tagged \$13,000 for hunting illegally

By Terrance Gavan

Shades of CSI Minden.

No it's not a new television series. It's a look into the new world of forensic policing and how the MNR is using technology to nab their prey.

DNA sampling led to the recent conviction of two men from Toronto; they and others will probably think twice before hunting moose illegally in the Highlands again. The men were fined a total of \$13,000 for hunting, possessing and transporting moose and deer shot during the closed season. Justice of the Peace Brian Norton heard the case in the Minden Court on January 5.

An MNR press release related that, "Ihor Pylypchuk pleaded guilty and was fined \$5,000 for hunting moose during the closed season and \$3,000 for hunting deer during the closed season. In addition to being fined \$2,000 for the possession of illegally killed moose and deer, he received a five-year

hunting suspension and his firearm was permanently forfeited to the Crown."

Another man, Ihor Maksymyshyn pleaded guilty to transporting moose unlawfully hunted, and was fined \$3,000.

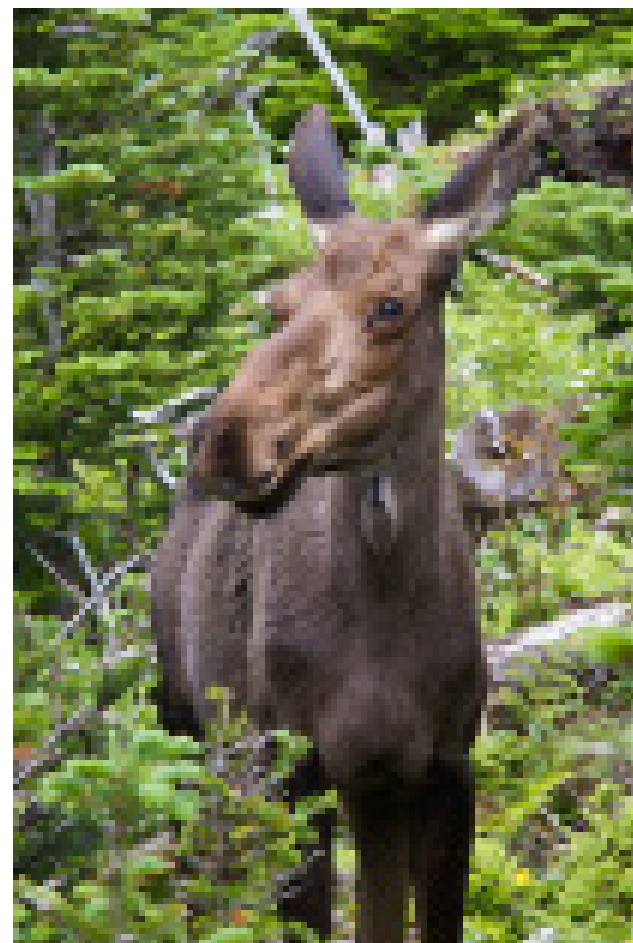
The court heard that on October 3, 2010, a conservation officer attended a house in the Kinmount area and found butchered meat in the basement. Further investigation, with the assistance of the canine unit, led to the location of moose and deer kill-sites on the property.

"Subsequently, two search warrants were executed on residences in the Toronto area," the release said. "Officers recovered moose meat from the residence of Ihor Maksymyshyn that matched DNA from the kill location identified on the property in Kinmount." In case there was any doubt, the report adds that, "a firearm was located in the residence of Ihor Pylypchuk that was forensically examined and matched to a bullet located in the illegally killed moose."

A dead moose in Minden tracked to a Toronto freezer.

Poachers take note.

To report a natural resources violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll free any time, or contact your local ministry office during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).



A Canadian moose. Photo Steve Jurvetson.



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Highlands East

Highlands East a-Twitter over Facebook

Council to add social media to website

By Terrance Gavan

Highlands East Council is on board with its webmaster, Aaron Berning. Berning was in chambers Tuesday morning to address Council's plans to add social media to its website.

Specifically, Berning was there to talk about Facebook and Twitter, two of the most popular social networking sites on the web. "We've been having the discussion regarding social media," said Berning. "We're asking if council has an idea of what they want to implement."

Berning explained that if Council was going to go ahead with Facebook, that it may as well add Twitter. "Both are social media sites," said Berning. "Facebook has richer content and Twitter has higher engagement. Twitter is so simple to set up and use, so I would suggest that we should do both at the same time."

Councilors Steve Kauffeldt and Cecil Ryall both said they felt comfortable with a decision to add more flexibility to the website. Both agreed that Facebook especially would give residents open access to Reeve Dave Burton and the councilors.

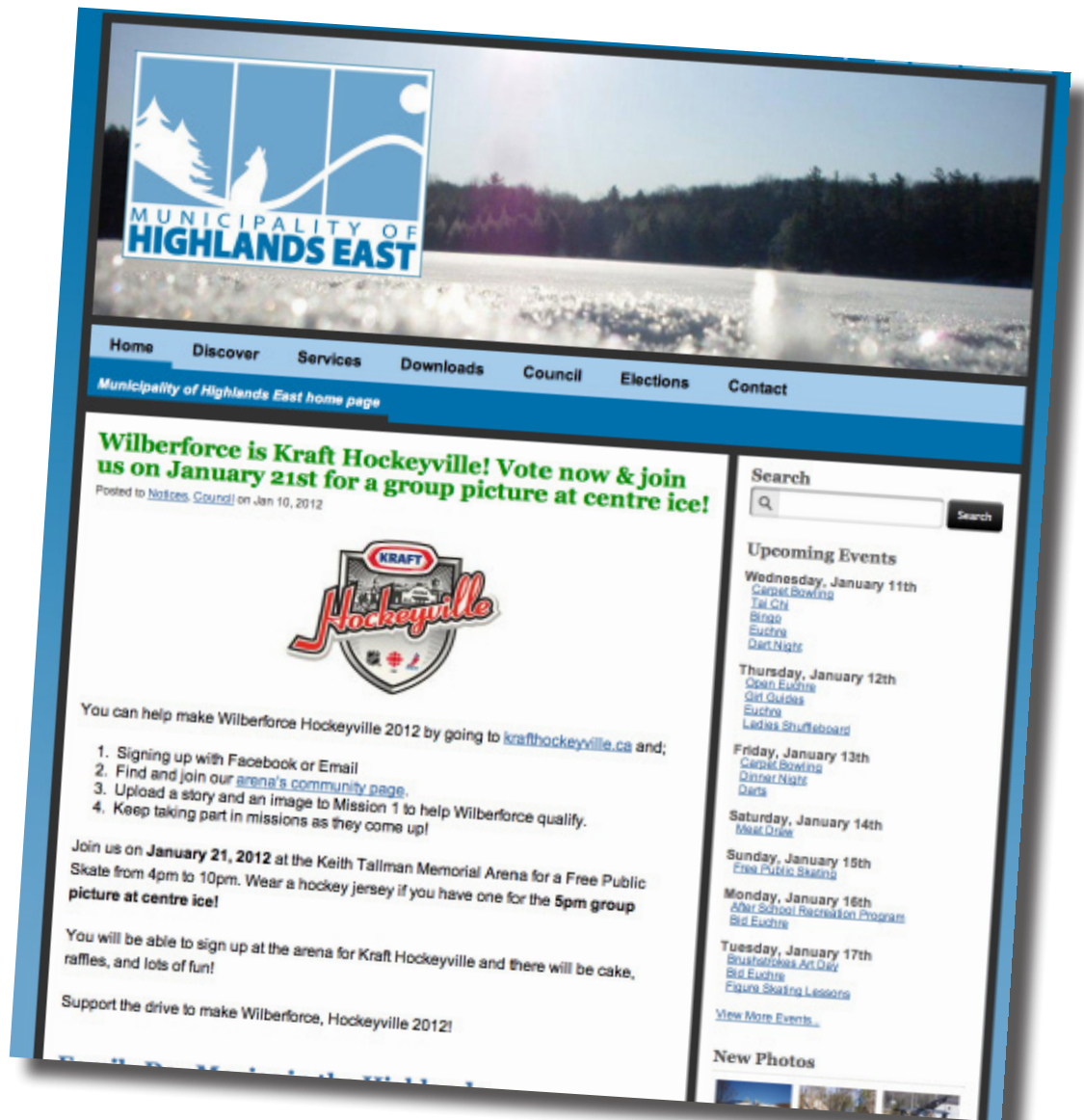
Berning introduced a note of sobriety, reminding all council members of the nature of the twin beasts, to wit: instant publication and permanent records. Social networking sites lend themselves to instant updates, and that immediacy can cause problems for those who tend to post without considering the consequences.

Berning also told Council members that social networking sites can open communications to less-than-subtle constituents and those who may offend. In other words, be warned and be careful what you wish for.

Driving home the point, the big story on CBC Radio on Tuesday morning was a Twitter exchange between Tory MP Tony Clement and a high school student who had taken the federal cabinet minister to task over the spelling of 'nite' on his Twitter account on Saturday. CTV.ca reported that Clement responded ironically, making fun of the 15-year-old's spelling. "Ha ha ur fnny," Clement wrote. Then he tweeted, "It's 'don't know', not 'dunno'. Jack ass."

Clement issued a formal apology on Monday, after the boy, Keith Pettinger, put screenshots of the tweets on his account. Caveat emptor: you buy into social media, you better beware. That was the gist of Berning's warning to council.

"The last thing I want to mention is that you have to be willing to deal with public feedback, and that's why we've waited this long [to address the social networking sites]," said Berning.



"If someone has a complaint, they can make that complaint, and everyone who wants to can see the complaint, and also see the response."

Berning gave the councilors a final chance to change their minds: "If the willingness is not there, then just don't do it at all."

Ryall was undeterred. "I'm very, very comfortable with it," he said. Reeve Burton said he would be comfortable with the immediacy of addressing both complaints and decisions online. Kauffeldt, Suzanne Partridge and Joan Barton all offered support for the inclusion of sharing-buttons on the Highlands East website.

Along with a Facebook page for the municipality, Berning said that he would incorporate both Twitter and Facebook feeds and links on the sidebar of the municipality's website. Council agreed that Brittany Ellis would be responsible for keeping the Facebook page updated and the Twitter account current.

Curling event 'good for the local economy'

continued from page 1

for the event," said Ashall. "As a Club, we will establish a planning committee in the next few weeks. There will be a need for many of our members to volunteer and help out, both leading up to the event and also during the event."

Along with the 64 curlers (some teams will bring spares), there are approximately 90 additional attendees, including parents, guests and officials. All have to be fed, and a large

Friday night banquet, replete with a guest speaker, has to be organized. The club will be seeking sponsorships for the large event; bleachers have to be installed and they'll need scorers to rate the curlers' performance.

Of course, the Haliburton Curling Club executive is also aware of the potential revenue spill-off to the businesses around town. "The event will also have a significant impact on the local economy, especially considering it is a Thursday through Saturday in mid-February 2013. We think that having

150 people descending on Haliburton will be good for the local economy," said Ashall.

This year Orangeville is hosting the Gores, and Ashall said that it would be a great idea to send some of the organizing committee to the event to garner some input and insight. "Ottawa hosted the event last year and I've talked with the organizer there," said Ashall.

He added that the Ottawa host offered some solid advice.

Visit www.haliburtonhighlander.ca
to post your classified ads.

Sports news

Hawks beat LCVI 46-38 in the Nest



The senior basketball Hawks beat LCVI 46-38 in an exciting contest at the Hawks Nest on Wednesday afternoon. Above: Denver Smith blocks a shot. Far left: Louis Ferracuti drives the lane. Left: Damon Flatman is on the move. Photos Terrance Gavan.

Sports opinion

PardontheEruption



Disparate views on the role of the enforcer

By Terrance Gavan

Colton Orr is a marginal hockey player blessed with parsimonious talent, wooden hands, and a desultory temperament.

He is one of those guys, part of the fraternal order of hired goons, enlisted

by the Toronto Maple Leafs to wage war against some hypothetical NHL 'Rat Pack', a disingenuous term used by aging relics to support the employment of a redundant commodity, to wit: The National Hockey League's Fraternal Order of Lawless Brawlers.

Brian Burke is the General Manager of the Toronto Maple Leafs, a Harvard-educated lawyer, and an anachronism. His team plays in the same building as the Toronto Raptors, a nice abutment, because Burke, like a lot of his fellow GMs and coaches, is a fossil, and proof that a degree from Harvard is hugely overrated.

Burke had one of his Neanderthal hissy fits the other day, when he jettisoned Colton Orr back to the AHL, a place where old warhorses go to relive their youth; and to become human punching bags. Burke took the opportunity to wade into one of his favorite topics: death of the gladiator; Rise of the Rat.

"I do wonder where our game is going," Burke said, in a piece written by the Globe and Mail's Jim Mirtle. "I know the Greenpeace folks will be happy with this, but I wonder where we're going when Brendan Shanahan's got six hearings every two days."

Burke's tongue-in-cheek slap at Shanahan is aimed at the NHL's Board of Governors and Gary Bettman in particular. He implies that he's concerned with love and

peace, motherhood and the integrity of the game.

"You see the garbage that happened in here the other night [Steve Downie went after Leafs captain Dion Phaneuf] and I wonder about the accountability in our game. I wonder where we're going with it. That's the only lament I have on this, the fear that if we don't have guys looking after each other then the rats will take this game over.

"I see guys that run around and start stuff and won't back it up and it makes me sick to my stomach."

This hyperbolic 'lament for a nation' rant was a pantomime for the departure of one Colton Orr. Colton Orr? Really Burke? That's where we're drawing our line in the sand?

Here's what Orr brings to the table: in 2009-10 he played 82 games. He had four goals, two assists and 239 minutes in penalties. In 2010-11 Colton Orr had two goals and 128 penalty minutes in 46 games. This year, Orr has played five games, has one goal and only five minutes in penalties.

Note the trend: Orr is redundant because no one wants to dance. And without a dance partner, Orr is an inconsequential talent. This state of affairs is anathema to Burke and his rant had less to do with Orr and more to do with delivering a message to other like-minded souls. And he was ingratiating himself to fans and other GMs that support his thesis. He was, in other words, preaching to the converted.

It's a time-honoured strategy, and the favorite tool of those who live in the past: decry progress with the hearkening of a bygone age, where God saved the Queen, mothers baked and hockey players were, well, hockey players. Guts and glory types who knew where to draw the line.

Jim Devellano

Red Wings

"I would abolish fighting, like today."

Balderdash. It's time for Brian Burke to take his bully pulpit and go home. As a New York Times article this week concluded, it may be time for sanity to take hold.

"It was coincidental, but two successful NHL team executives, Detroit's Jimmy Devellano and Toronto's Brian Burke, spoke out about fighting in the game last Thursday," wrote Jeff Z. Klein and Stu Hackel. "They represent diametrically different points of view on the subject, and they were not speaking in response to each other, but it was as good as a point-counterpoint presentation of dueling editorials."

They went on to quote Devellano, who is recognized as a voice in the wilderness and a man who is unafraid to rage against the machine.

"I would abolish fighting, like today,"

Devellano, the Red Wings' senior vice president, said on a podcast for the New York cable network SNY. "I would eliminate it immediately. I can do without it. I don't need it."

Ah, Jimmy. Please do go on.

"I'm in the minority among my peers,"

Devellano told the Times. But he said he had held this view "since Scotty Bowman took over our team as coach" in 1993-94.

"He really didn't care for having what you would call that five-minute player who just goes out and fights," Devellano said of Bowman. "And we had good teams and we had skilled teams, and the teams were very interesting and good to watch. I can do without fighting. I don't think the game needs it. I think the game is beautiful when you see the skill that's displayed by our better players."

Two incongruous views of our "beautiful" game.

A poet and a boor facing off, quite by chance.

The poet wins. Natch.



Storm AE play hard in Huntsville

Submitted by Larry Bukta

The Highland Storm Atom AE team visited Huntsville on Saturday and played extremely well, despite losing 7-2. Huntsville scored the first goal but the Storm came back with goals by Jake O'Neill and Nigel Smith which gave the team a 2-1 lead. The Storm successfully killed a number of penalties, but Huntsville finally tied the game and then scored their third goal late in the second period.

The Huntsville team enjoyed a large advantage as their players somehow took few penalties. Storm goalie Jaxson Campbell played an outstanding game and in one play was blind-sided to the head by a Huntsville attacker as he covered the puck. Huntsville went on to score four more goals in the third period but the Storm team showed determination and hard work throughout the game.

Peewee A's finish regular season on a high

Submitted by Karena Crofts

Dr Ed Smolen Family Dentistry-sponsored Peewee A's traveled last Saturday (Jan 7) to Peterborough for an exhibition game which they won 11-1. The team then did a quick turnaround visit to Parry Sound Sun Jan 8 for their final two games with the Shamrocks, marking the end of the regular season. The first game saw the Storm a little sleepy, possibly from the early morning travel, and they suffered a 6-0 loss.

But in the second game, the Storm boys did not disappoint. In the first period Kyle Cooper scored, assisted by Greg Crofts; Parry Sound then answered with two of their own. In the second period, Max MacNaull scored, assisted by Greg Crofts and Jake Bull, but the Shamrocks quickly made it 3-2. That didn't stop our boys: Max MacNaull scored again, making it 3-3.

After a lot of tough play, Greg Crofts scored when he out-skated three of the Parry Sound players. Nearing the end of the third period, the Shamrocks pulled their goalie for an extra man, but the Storm had the momentum and Matt Wilbee scored an empty netter. Finally, in a sudden flurry of activity in front of the Parry Sound net, Greg Crofts scored once again.

Final score was 6-3 for the Storm: a decent end to the regular season. We will now wait and see who and when we play in the OMHA playdowns and the Muskoka-Parry Sound playoffs, which usually start mid January. Thank you to everyone for your support and we will let you know our playoff schedule when we get it.



AUDITION CALL

Saturday and Sunday, January 21 & 22

The Highlands Summer Festival invites actors between the ages of 11 to 65, of both genders, to audition for the 2012 summer theatre season.

This year's productions include:

- Colours in the Storm
- Within Reach
- Arsenic and Old Lace
- Steel Magnolias

Characters outlines, skills required (some productions include singing and dancing), audition, rehearsal and production scheduling can be found at www.highlandssummerfestival.on.ca

For more information contact Executive Producers David Mills and Betty Mills at 705-457-1354.

Around the county

Hawks put their record on the line

Boys hockey at St. Peter's Classic

By Terrance Gavan

The Hal High Hawks were tested yesterday at the annual St. Peter's Classic hockey tourney in Peterborough.

How'd they do? Well, one of the drawbacks of the weekly newspaper grind remains production scheduling, and the fact that our Thursday paper must be done by Wednesday afternoon. So please visit our website today to view how the Hawks are faring (www.haliburtonhighlander.ca).

Here's what we do know: the Hawks, on the basis of their stellar 6-0 Kawartha record and a gold medal at the esteemed Oshawa tourney, ended up in the A-Division of the prestigious 48-team St. Peter's Classic.

The Hawks played the round robin portion yesterday – please check the website – with games versus St. Peter's, North Hastings from Bancroft and Barrie's St. Joan of Arc High School.

Coach Ron Yake said Tuesday that their Thursday schedule will depend on how the Hawks fared in the preliminary Wednesday qualifiers.

"We'll have to finish top two in our pool to advance to Thursday," said Yake.



Jordan Howe fights off a St. Peter's defender during Kawartha League action. The Hawks played St. Peter's yesterday in the first game of the two-day St. Peter's Classic. Photo Terrance Gavan

The Hawks played at St Peter's Kinsmen rink, at 10:10 am and moved over to Norwood Arena at 1:30 pm for their game against North Hastings. At 6:25 pm they played St Joan of Arc at the Kinsmen.

Yake said that the players were rested and ready after their long Christmas break. "We had a good practice on Monday night," said Yake. He's expecting that both St. Peter's and North Hastings will have something to prove.

"We beat St. Peter's in our league play and they'll be playing at their rink," said Yake. "We expect that they'll be ready to go after losing to us. And North Hastings? We played them at the

Whitby tournament and it was a close game. We won 4-2 with an empty netter and they'll be tough."

Yake said that St. Joan of Arc is an unknown quantity. "They're from Barrie and we have no idea what they bring, but they're in the A side and we know that they played pretty well to get there," said Yake. "That's the great thing about this tourney, because we know we're going to get three competitive games.

Check with us on Twitter.com/terracegavan and head to the website – haliburtonhighlander.ca — for updates on the Wednesday and Thursday results.

Skyline tops the list of upcoming Bonspiels

Submitted by the Haliburton Curling Club

The 53rd annual Skyline Bonspiel is scheduled for January 20-22. Wayne Hussey, chairman of the bonspiel for many years now, says that there are 24 teams signed up for the men's competitive curling that weekend.

Sponsors include: Haliburton Lumber — A event; Curry Motors — B event; Haliburton Home Hardware — C event; and Dawson Insurance — D event. Haliburton Foodland sponsors the draw to the button for the best team score event.

Curling starts late Friday, continues all day Saturday, and the playoffs are on Sunday starting at 2 pm.

The Ladies annual Tournament of Hearts is scheduled for Saturday, Feb 11. The event features two six end games.

Whirlpool Newbatt's Mixed Bonspiel

This mixed bonspiel is planned for Feb 3-5. The draw is filling up, so if you're thinking about entering a team, contact Bob Johnston, convener.

Charity Bonspiel Sponsored by Independent

On Saturday, Feb 18, Todd's Independent sponsors a charity Bonspiel for the Haliburton Highlands Hospital Foundation. See the notice board for more information and to complete a team registration.

LOOKING FOR A JOB?

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- TEACH YOU BASIC COMPUTER SKILLS

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NOTICE



AN INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN A VISIONING SESSION FOR THE DYSART MUNICIPAL CULTURAL PLAN

The Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Dysart et al invites interested persons to participate in a visioning session for the Dysart Municipal Cultural Plan. This is an economic development plan, which is focused on arts, culture and heritage. The approved plan will be implemented through the actions of the Municipality and supported and advanced by the actions of our community partners and stakeholders.

Date: Thursday, January 19th, 2012
Time: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Location: The Great Hall, Fleming College
1297 College Drive
Haliburton, Ontario

To participate in this session, please pre-register with the Municipality prior to Friday January 13th, 2012, by calling 705-457-1740.

For further information, please contact Patricia Martin, Director of Planning and Development, during regular office hours (8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday).

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Also visit www.haliburtonhighlander.ca to post your classified ads.

Highlander events

January 2012



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To January 21

- Cultural Considerations, Myth of the Steersman, Marcel O'Gorman: a starting point, Rails End Gallery, Haliburton, (705) 457-2330, info@railsendgallery.com, www.railsendgallery.com

January 28 to March 17

- SCENE/Seen in Haliburton, opening reception members salon exhibition, Rails End Gallery & Arts Centre, 2 pm to 4 pm, cast your vote for Peoples Choice Award and see work by over 50 talented local artists in a wide range of media, (705) 457-2330, info@railsendgallery.com, www.railsendgallery.com

To February 25

- Evidence – Photography Exhibit, Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Minden, a group exhibition featuring photographers Ryan Szulc & Darren Lum exploring the role of photography today, (705) 286-3763, gallery@mindhills.ca, www.mindenculturalcentre.com

Thursday – 12

- Euchre Nights, Minden Legion Branch 636, 7:30 pm
- Bid Euchre, Community Care, Haliburton, 1pm, for seniors 55+ or physically disabled adults 18+, Ida (705) 457-2941
- Bid Euchre, Minden Community Centre, 1 pm to 4 pm, Bev, (705) 286-3085

Friday – 13

- Cribbage, Community Care, Haliburton, 1pm, for seniors 55+ or physically disabled adults 18+, Ida (705) 457-2941
- NFL Football, Big Screen TV, Minden Legion Branch 636, 12:30 pm, John Sloan, (705) 286-1397, jcsloan@gmail.com
- Fish & Chips dinner at the Minden Legion Branch 636, 5 pm to 7 pm, John Sloan, (705) 286-1397, jcsloan@gmail.com
- Play Pool! Wilberforce Legion Branch 624, 1:30 pm, (705) 448-2221, jandreamweaver@aol.com
- Jam Session, Wilberforce Legion Branch 624, 7 pm, (705) 448-2221, jandreamweaver@aol.com

Saturday – 14

- Open Mike Nite, Dominion Hotel, Minden, 8 pm, (705) 286-5035, shawn@light.on.ca
- Karaoke, Minden Legion Branch 636, 7:30 pm, John Sloan, (705) 286-1397, jcsloan@gmail.com
- Meat Draw, Wilberforce Legion Branch 624, 2 pm, (705) 448-2221, jandreamweaver@aol.com
- Opening Reception, Evidence Exhibition, Agnes Jamieson Gallery, 1 pm, (705) 286-3763, gallery@mindhills.ca, www.mindenculturalcentre.com

Sunday – 15

- NFL Football, Big Screen TV, Minden Legion Branch 636, 12:30 pm, John Sloan, (705) 286-1397, jcsloan@gmail.com

gmail.com

- Circus Terrifico – Razzamataz Kids Shows, Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion, 2 pm, www.razzamataz.ca, www.motuso.com
- FREE Public Skating – Dysart Arena, Haliburton, 12 noon to 1:30 pm, Ray (705) 457-2083, miscio@dysartatla.com
- Country Music Jamboree, Country Hot Flashes and Cold Shoulders, Open Mic, SG Nesbitt Community Centre, Minden, 1 pm to 5 pm, admission \$7 at door (or \$5 if you participate in open mic session), Minden Lioness serving dinner at 5 pm (hearty homemade soup, sandwich, dessert and beverage), \$8 lindamuggins@hotmail.com

Monday – 16

- Cribbage Night, Minden Legion Branch 636, 7:30 pm
- Lunch Time Meat Draw, Minden Legion Branch 636, John Sloan, (705) 286-1397, jcsloan@gmail.com
- Bid Euchre, Wilberforce Legion Branch 624, 7 pm, (705) 448-2221, jandreamweaver@aol.com
- Cloggers, Lloyd Watson Centre, Wilberforce, 7 pm, \$1, all ages welcome
- Celebrate Recovery, Lakeside Baptist Church, 7pm to 10pm, admin@lakesidebaptist.ca
- Contract Bridge, Community Care, Haliburton, 1pm, for seniors 55+ or physically disabled adults 18+, Ida (705) 457-2941
- Haliburton County Table Tennis Club meets every Monday, 6 pm to 9 pm, St. George's Church, 617 Mountain Street, Haliburton. Come out for great fun, even better exercise and meet terrific people! Just bring your gym shoes – we provide everything else including Robo-Pong THE ROBOT! Mary or Jeff Martin, (705) 457-2260

Tuesday – 17

- Euchre Night, West Guilford Recreation Centre, 7pm to 10pm, (705) 754-1457, carolstamp@sympatico.ca
- Pool League, Dominion Hotel, Minden, open to all, (705) 286-5035

Wednesday – 18

- Point in Time Visit, Ontario Early Years Centre, Haliburton, 83 Maple Avenue, Unit 5, Haloo Plaza, drop-in and visit with a staff member from Point in Time Centre for children, youth and parents for casual talk times to support you as a parent, (705) 457-2989, oeycmin@bellnet.ca
- Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Wilberforce, 1 pm, 705-457-1909
- Parent/Tot Kindergym at 10 am, Baby Ballet at 10:45 am, every Wednesday, Haliburton Dance Arts, Maple Avenue, Haliburton, classes \$10 each, (705) 754-0007, www.haliburtondancearts.com
- Art & Tea, Rails End Gallery, for adults who like to talk about art and drink tea
- Community Drumming/Rhythm Circle, Rails End Gallery, 7:30 pm to 9 pm

- Story Circle, Gooderham Public Library, Pine Street, Gooderham, 11:30 am, (705) 457-2241 or (705) 447-3163
- Darts, Haliburton Legion Branch 129, 7:30 pm
- Darts, Wilberforce Legion Branch 624, 7:30 pm, (705) 448-2221, jandreamweaver@aol.com
- Haliburton County Table Tennis Club meets every Wednesday, 1 pm to 3 pm, Minden Community Centre, 55 Parkside, Minden. Come out for great fun, even better exercise and meet terrific people! Just bring your gym shoes – we provide everything else including Robo-Pong THE ROBOT! Mary or Jeff Martin, (705) 457-2260
- FREE Public Skating – Dysart Arena, Haliburton, 12 noon to 1:30 pm, Ray (705) 457-2083, miscio@dysartatla.com

Thursday – 19

- Meet the Nurse - Ontario Early Years Centre, Haliburton, 83 Maple Avenue, Unit 5, Haloo Plaza, visit Kelly to have your baby or child weighed and measured - ask questions and learn something new about your child's growth and development, phone (705) 457-2989, oeycmin@bellnet.ca
- Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Haliburton, 9:30 am, (705) 457-1909
- Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Kinmount, 9:30 am, (705) 286-1444
- Adult's Only Skate, every Thursday, Dysart Arena, 11 am to 12:30 noon (except Feb 9 & Mar 8 times will be 12 noon to 1:30 pm and on Mar 15 times will be from 12:30 pm to 2 pm, \$2 per person, contact Ray, (705) 457-2083
- FREE Public Skating – Dysart Arena, Haliburton, 12 noon to 1:30 pm, Ray (705) 457-2083, miscio@dysartatla.com
- Bid Euchre, Minden Community Centre, 1 pm to 4 pm, Bev, (705) 286-3085
- Euchre Nights, Minden Legion Branch 636, 7:30 pm
- Bid Euchre, Community Care, Haliburton, 1pm, for seniors 55+ or physically disabled adults 18+, Ida (705) 457-2941

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- Fish & Chips dinner at the Minden Legion Branch 636, 5pm to 7 pm, John Sloan, (705) 286-1397, jcsloan@gmail.com
- Play Pool! Wilberforce Legion Branch 624, 1:30 pm, (705) 448-2221, jandreamweaver@aol.com
- Spaghetti Dinner, Wilberforce Legion Branch 624, 5-7 pm, (705) 448-2221, jandreamweaver@aol.com

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Email details to louise@haliburonhighlander.ca by Mondays at noon.

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Classifieds page

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ODD JOB JACK - YOUR LOCAL HANDYMAN since 2008 for snow clearing, renos, demos and repairs, interior and exterior painting and staining, home and cottage cleaning, cottage maintenance, grounds keeping, dump runs, eavestrough cleaning... you name it! What can we do for you? (705) 448-9965 oddjobjack@yahoo.ca

TATTOO – Hidden Lotus Tattoo and Custom Art Studio, at the Village Barn, Haliburton. Local Artist, health board approved, sterile environment, professionally licensed since 1997. Come check out our Art Gallery. Online portfolio on Facebook. (705) 455-3093.

K9 KLIPPERS & KENNELS - Professional Grooming & A Home Away From Home!! 2153 Harburn Rd (705) 457-3614

RESIDENTIAL CLEANING - Booking now for "Holiday Sparkle" cleanings. Senior Assistance. Yes I Do Windows! (705) 448-2864

WEST GUILFORD GLASS & MIRROR - Glass, Mirror, Thermo Units, Window and Doors. New Installations, Renos and Repairs. patjlees@gmail.com (705) 754-0198

CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING - Livingroom/ diningroom/hall \$39.95 sofa/ chair/loveseat \$59.95; area rugs, seniors discount; flood damage; scotch guard, disinfectant, deodorized. Specialize in home improvements - work guaranteed. (705) 448-1432 robpetiti@bell.net

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

DID SANTA FORGET? We all know he is getting a little older and, well, can sometimes forget things. Well, there is still time to purchase your Highlands Summer Festival Season Pass at pre-Christmas prices. Passes are available by calling the Highlands Summer Festival box office for details (705) 457-9933. Five production pass - \$110. The Highlands Opera Studio passes just \$67.50 for three performances. Call now, (before you forget), because the sale ends January 15.

NOTICE OF MEETING Wilberforce Agricultural Society, Annual Meeting & Supper, Sat Jan 14, 2012, Lloyd Watson Community Centre, Wilberforce, Supper 6 pm, Annual Meeting 7:30 pm, Everyone welcome. For more information call (705) 448-2683 or email info@wilberforcefair.com

FOR RENT

UNFURNISHED 1 BEDROOM APARTMENT - for rent in Minden. Close to all amenities. No smoking/ no pets. References required. First and last month rent. Available immediately. (705) 306-0157

1 BEDROOM APARTMENT - between Minden and Haliburton, \$575 per month including utilities. First & last month deposit and references required. Please call Carmen at (705) 286-0343.

2 BEDROOM APARTMENT - just north of Minden, \$600 plus heat and hydro, electric heat. Call Mike (705) 457-5597.

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For Rent in Gooderham available immediately **FURNISHED BEDROOM** with separate private bath and parking, including use of kitchen facilities; second room, satellite and laundry equipment negotiable; daily, weekly or monthly, \$450 to \$600 per month negotiable, call (705) 447-2094 or (647) 466-0610.

HELP WANTED

The **ROCKCLIFFE** is now hiring for Server/Bartender position. Please drop off resume or e-mail rockcliffetavern@hotmail.com

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27" SELF-PROPELLED SNOW - THROWER with cab used 1 season - \$700. Blue easy-lift recliner chair runs on electricity or battery - \$250. Call Rose Herring, 705-488-2074.

SOLID OAK DINING SUITE - in excellent condition (table 41x54" with 2 leaves, 5 chairs plus matching arm chair, buffet) - asking \$850 or best offer. Call (705) 286-1688.

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51 INCH SONY PROJECTION TV - good working order but colour is not perfect. It's yours for a donation to the Minden Food Bank. (705) 286-6411

INSULATED STEEL DOOR, 32" X 80", glass etched top, 2 ½ years old, \$125, aluminum screen door - 32" x 80", white \$50, free flat shingled roof, 6' x 5'. Call (705) 286-0625.

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MEADE (USA) TELESCOPE, 6" reflector, sight scope, 2 eyepieces, equatorial mount, solid aluminum base, \$459 or best offer, call (705) 754-5943 or email gaj4758@gmail.com.

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SEA LOUDSPEAKERS (Danish) home theater series, 5 pieces, approximately 7x8x9 front ports, black \$350 or best offer, (705) 754-5943 or email gaj4758@gmail.com.

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OBITUARIES



Earl Johnston
(Resident of Gooderham, Ontario)



Peacefully with his family by his side at Extendicare-Haliburton on Friday evening, January 6, 2012 in his 91st year. Beloved husband of Mary Johnston (nee Dewey). Dear brother of Florence Byers of Florida. Lovingly remembered by Dan (Marilyn) Sayers of Gooderham. Also fondly remembered by his step grandchildren Andrew and Christopher and by his step great grandson Trent.

Earl lived and worked in Oshawa for General Motors on the Assembly line for many years. Once he retired, he returned to the Gooderham area where he enjoyed many years with his wife Mary. Earl will be sadly missed by man.

Visitation & Funeral Service

Friends were invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Tuesday afternoon, January 10, 2012 from 1pm until time of Funeral Service in the Chapel at 2pm. Interment later Glamorgan Cemetery, Gooderham. As expressions of sympathy donations to Extendicare - Proud Pioneers or a charity of your choice would be appreciated by the family.

www.communityfuneralhomes.ca

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